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Summit Daily News

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Pearsall award given to Mayor Hickenlooper

DAILY NEWS STAFF REPORT

An award named after Dillon resident Duane Pearsall will be given to Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper today.

Hickenlooper will be recognized by the Rockies Venture Club for his entrepreneurial efforts in lower downtown Denver.

The club will present the prestigious Duane Pearsall Entrepreneurial Award in front of 400 people at the 10th annual Fall Finance Expo at the Marriott City Center in Denver.

Pearsall founded the Statitrol Corp., one of the biggest successes in the history of Colorado entrepreneurship, said a press release from the Rockies Venture Club.

Pearsall also was a co-founder of Columbine Venture Funds, a landmark venture capital firm that played a critical role in the emergence of Colorado's

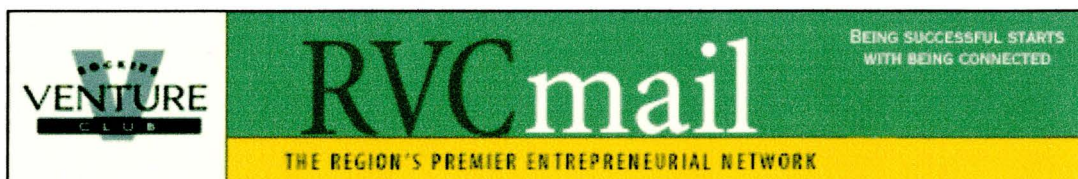
venture capital community.

Previous recipients of the award include Bill Daniels, John Elway and Gov. Roy Romer for their contributions to Colorado's entrepreneurial community.

The Fall Finance Expo on 1701 California St. in downtown Denver is free, but workshops cost \$25 and the dinner costs \$50 for nonmembers. Speakers include Hickenlooper, Art Zeile of Inflow, Jim Conboy of the Colorado Venture Capital Association and several other notable financial experts who will offer advice about a variety of finance, sales and marketing issues facing companies in the current economic climate.

Pearsall is "really, completely" happily retired. The Dillon resident said he still receives calls once in a while for his opinions on venture capital issues. He retired in 1993 after receiving the entrepreneurial award named after him.

Subj: **Nominations needed for Coveted RVC Entrepreneurial Award**
Date: 1/27/2005 2:11:15 PM Mountain Standard Time
From: info@rockiesventureclub.org
To: dnprs@aol.com



Dear RVC Members and Friends:

On April 12, 2005, the RVC will present the **Duane Pearsall Entrepreneurial Award** honoring an outstanding contribution to Colorado's entrepreneurial community.

The **Duane Pearsall Entrepreneurial Award** was established by the Rockies Venture Club in 1993 upon Mr. Pearsall's formal retirement from Columbine Venture Funds. Throughout his life, Mr. Pearsall has been an active member of the Denver venture capital community and an avid supporter of the entrepreneurial spirit. It is his steadfast belief in entrepreneurship and innovation that led the RVC to create this award honoring a person, team or organization that shone brightest through the year.

In the past, the Award has been presented to such luminaries as:

John Elway
Mayor John Hickenlooper
Bill Daniels
Governor Roy Romer

If you have a client, coworker or colleague you feel represents and supports the entrepreneurial spirit and should receive this award, please submit your nominations by filling out the **Nomination Form** which you can print/download **by clicking here**.

You may fax the form to the RVC office at 303-758-3885, or mail it to: 1805 S. Bellaire, Suite 480, Denver, Colorado 80222 by February 15, 2005.

Best regards,
Maita Lester
Executive Director
Rockies Venture Club
303-831-4174
maita@rockiesventureclub.org

For more information on the RVC, visit us online at
<http://ipost.com/rd/9z1z2kj5jvoop7h5fvfkboe4sfuecqaslf8pod5cts0>, email info@rockiesventureclub.org
or call 303.831.4174. RVC address is 1805 S. Bellaire St., #480, Denver, Colorado, 80222

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The Duane Pearsall Entrepreneurial Award

BACKGROUND

The Duane Pearsall Entrepreneurial Award was established by the Rockies Venture Club in 1993, upon Mr. Pearsall's formal retirement from Columbine Venture Funds (see attached biographical sketch). Throughout his life, Pearsall has been an active member of the Denver venture capital community and an avid support of the entrepreneurial spirit. The Duane Pearsall Award will be given periodically – for outstanding service or achievement on behalf of the entrepreneurial community in Colorado.

CRITERIA

A successful entrepreneur, defined as a person who has started or turned-around a company which has received generally acknowledged success. This may be a publicly acclaimed sell-out, acquisition, or merger with a larger company. It may also be a company which has gone public and achieved a loosely defined sustained market value.

A person, team or organization that has achieved generally acknowledged acclaim for their contribution to, and support of, the entrepreneurial cause - whether locally, regionally or nationally.

PAST RECIPIENTS

Duane Pearsall (1993)
Governor Roy Romer (1996)
John Elway (1998)
Bill Daniels (2000)

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Duane D. Pearsall, Ph.D.

Raised in Michigan, Duane Pearsall had just completed his sophomore year at General Motors Institute when WWII interrupted his college. He served as a Navy pilot for three years, coming to Denver where he received a BSBA degree from the University of Denver in 1947.

After seven years with Honeywell, he started Pearsall Co., which provided manufacturer's representative services. Then, in 1963, Pearsall founded Statitrol Corp. which made static control devices using ionization. His discovery that ions are absorbed by particles of combustion led to the development of the first ionization smoke detector made in the U.S. This was followed three years later by the introduction of the first battery-powered home smoke detector in 1970. Statitrol grew to 1,000 employees and was merged into Emerson Electric in 1977.

Pearsall credits a venture capital loan for his company's survival, and the advice and counsel of the venture capitalist was even more important. He didn't forget the lesson, and in 1979, Pearsall invested in an early venture capital fund, and in 1983, became a founding general partner of Columbine Venture Funds.

Most significant awards include:

National Small Business Person of the Year, SBA, 1976
Fire Protection Man of the Year, National Society of Fire Protection Engineers, 1980
Duane Pearsall Entrepreneurial Award, established and awarded in 1993
Honorary Doctor of Science, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, 1996